

November 30, 1999

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FEDERAL  
CENTER

Donna Shalala, Secretary  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Shalala:

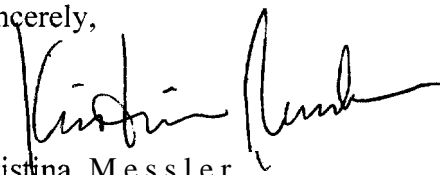
It is of great importance to us consumers to know what we put into our bodies and that our government will see to it that we will always be well informed in order to have the freedom of choice.

I am hereby expressing my concern about the possible weakening of labeling requirements for irradiated food that is being considered by the Food and Drug Administration. I strongly believe that it is my right to know if the food I eat has been treated with radiation.

Food products undergo chemical changes after exposure to radioactive isotopes. These cosmetic and nutritional changes in foods warrant disclosure on a prominent place on the package. In addition, food that is not packaged should be accompanied by a poster in plain view where it is displayed for sale. Labels are required by law to be truthful and not misleading to the customer. Only clear, honest and permanent labeling is acceptable for irradiated foods.

I do hope that you will defend the consumer's right to know in this important decision-making process.

Sincerely,

  
Kristina Messler  
35 Bowker Street  
Brookline, MA 02445

PS. I would also like to see listed on milk bottles whether the milk contains the bovine hormone.

98M-1038

C4797



Ms. Kristina Messler  
35 Bowker St  
Brookline, MA 02445-6912



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